REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the outstanding Official Action of October 5, 2004, on the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 10-16 remain in this application. Claims 1-9, and 17 have been cancelled. Claim 10 has been previously presented. Claims 11-16 are as originally filed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 10, and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being obvious over Robertson et al. '911. Applicants respectfully maintain that the present invention is neither anticipated by, nor obvious over, Robertson et al. '911.

Claim 10 is neither anticipated by, nor obvious over, Robertson et al. '911 since all the elements are neither disclosed nor suggested in Robertson et al. '911.

Claim 10 requires, at least:

1) the storage of electronic components in a storage area,
2) the maintenance of a warm and dry atmosphere, said maintenance accomplished by injecting a warm and dry gas into this storage,
3) wherein the flowrate of said injection is controlled to eliminate moisture from the components in the storage area, and
4) the removal of 0.1% or more of the weight of the components by elimination of moisture while the components are stored.

In contrast to the requirements of Claim 10, Robertson et al. '911 is directed to the storage of magnetic film videotapes. The storage of electronic components is neither taught nor suggested by Robertson et al. '911.

In contrast to the requirements of Claim 10, Robertson et al. '911 controls the temperature within the videotape storage cabinet by way of a heat pump. The injection of a warm and *dry* gas into the storage area is neither taught nor suggested by Robertson et al. '911.

In contrast to the requirements of Claim 10, Robertson et al. '911 controls the elimination of moisture from the videotape storage cabinet by way of a drying agent such as diatomaceous earth. The control of the flow rate of the warm and dry gas into the storage area is neither taught nor suggested by Robertson et al. '911.

In contrast to the requirements of Claim 10, Robertson et al. '911 is directed to the preservation of magnetic film videotapes. This is clearly indicated to require the *prevention* of moisture in the binder material. Should moisture interact with this binder, a process known as hydrolytic degradation occurs. While one of skill in the art of magnetic film and it's degradation, would know that while this chemical reaction is theoretically reversible, they would also know that, in practice, a degraded tape binder layer will never fully reconstruct back to it's original integrity when placed in a low humidity environment. Robertson et al. '911 clearly states this very fact at column 1, lines 39 through 47.

So, contrary to the Examiners statement that such a 0.1% loss of moisture in the storage of video tapes is inherent, Robertson et al. '911 teaches that these tapes are to be stored dry and never allowed to absorb any moisture. Therefore "the removal of 0.1% or more of the weight of the components by elimination of moisture while the components are stored" is neither taught nor suggested by Robertson et al. '911.

Thus the § 102 and § 103 rejections, with regard to Claim 10, are unsupported and should be withdrawn. Since Claim 10 is allowable over Robertson et al. '911, for the above stated reasons, claims 13-16 are also allowable since they are dependent upon it.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Robertson et al. '911 as applied to claims 10 and 13-16 above, in view of Takano '234. Applicants respectfully maintain that the present invention is not obvious over Robertson et al. '911 in view of Takano '234.

As discussed above, Robertson et al. '911 neither teaches nor suggests all the element of claim 10, and Takano '234 fails to cure these deficiencies. Takano '234 fails to teach or suggest 1) the storage of electronic components, 2) the injection of a warm and dry gas into the storage area, 3) the control of the flow rate of the warm and dry gas into the storage area, or 4) "the removal of 0.1% or more of the weight of the components by elimination of moisture while the components are stored."

Thus the § 103 rejection, with regard to Claim 11, is unsupported and should be withdrawn.

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Robertson et al. '911 as applied to claims 10 and 13-16 above, in view of Reiger '653. Applicants respectfully maintain that the present invention is not obvious over Robertson et al. '911 in view of Reiger '653.

As discussed above, Robertson et al. '911 neither teaches nor suggests all the element of claim 10, and Reiger '653 fails to cure these deficiencies. Reiger '653 fails to teach or suggest 2) the injection of a warm and dry gas into the

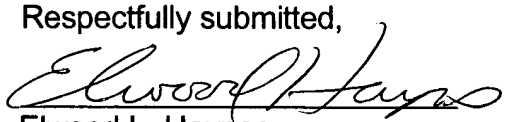
storage area, 3) the control of the flow rate of the warm and dry gas into the storage area, or 4) "the removal of 0.1% or more of the weight of the components by elimination of moisture while the components are stored."

Thus the § 103 rejection, with regard to Claim 12, is unsupported and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Elwood L. Haynes
Registration No. 55,254

Date: January 4, 2005
Air Liquide
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800
Houston, Texas 77056
Phone: (713) 624-8956
Fax: (713) 624-8950

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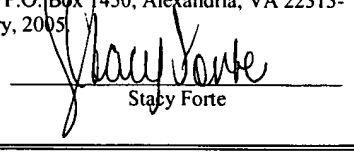

Stacy Forte